

About the

Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council

In July 2012, in response to the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill and other environmental challenges in the Gulf Coast region, Congress passed the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act). The RESTORE Act:

Creates a Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund).

Outlines a structure for use of the Trust Fund.

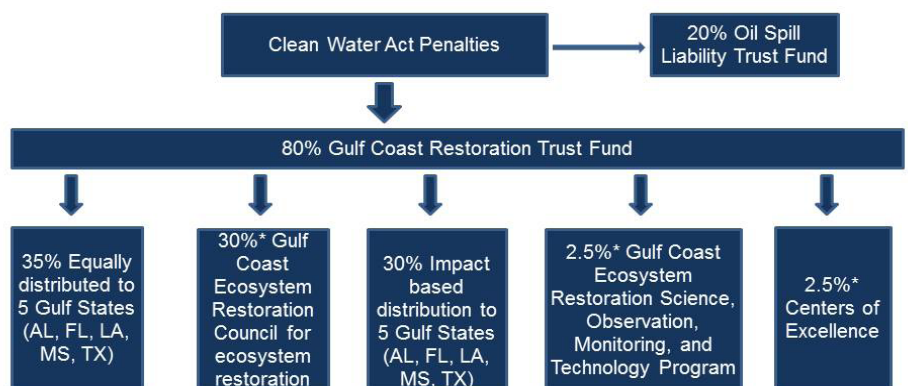
Establishes the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council).

Council Mission and Responsibilities

One of the Council's primary responsibilities is to develop a Comprehensive Plan to restore the ecosystem and economy of the Gulf Coast region. The Initial Comprehensive Plan (approved in August 2013) establishes the Council's goals for restoring and protecting the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, coastal wetlands, and economy of the Gulf Coast region.

The Council has oversight responsibility for 60% of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, as shown in the second and third columns from the left, below.

Allocation of Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund



*Supplemented by interest generated by the Trust Fund (50% to Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, 25% to Science Program, 25% to Centers of Excellence)

Council Members



Chair

US Department of Commerce
Secretary Penny Pritzker

State of Alabama
Governor Robert Bentley

Designee:
N. Gunter Guy, Jr.
Commissioner, Alabama Department of
Conservation and Natural Resources

US Department of Agriculture
Secretary Thomas Vilsack

Designee:
Robert Bonnie
Under Secretary of Agriculture

State of Florida
Governor Rick Scott

Designee:
Mimi Drew
Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)
Trustee Representative, and Ret. Secretary
of the Florida Department of Environmental
Protection

US Department of the Army
Secretary of the US Army John McHugh

Designee:
Jo-Ellen Darcy
Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)

State of Louisiana
Governor Bobby Jindal

Designee:
Jerome Zeringue
Chair, Louisiana Coastal Protection and Resto-
ration Authority

US Environmental Protection Agency
Administrator Gina McCarthy

Proxy:
Ken Kopocis
Senior Advisor, Office of Water

State of Mississippi
Governor Phil Bryant

Designee:
Gary Rikard
Executive Director, Mississippi Department of
Environmental Quality

**US Department of Homeland
Security**

Secretary Jeh Johnson
Designee:
VADM Peter Neffenger
Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard

State of Texas
Governor Rick Perry

Designee:
Toby Baker
Commissioner, Texas Commission on
Environmental Quality

US Department of the Interior
Secretary Sally Jewell

Designee:
Elizabeth Washburn
Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary, Depart-
ment of the Interior

For More Information

Go to restorethegulf.gov or
scan the QR code below.

